अनु जाति.				अनु जनजाति		
राज्य/संघ शासित क्षेत्र का नाम	1995	1996	1997	1995	1996	1997
25.पश्चिम बंगाल	0	0	0	0	0	0
कुल (राज्य)	32964	31416	27708	5494	4972	57

संघ शासित क्षेत्र

26.	0	0	0			2	
26.	0	0	1	0	0	2	
27.	0	0	0	0	0	0	
28.	2	0	0	3	1	1	
29.	6	11	19	1	0	0	
30.	0	0	1	0	0	0	
31	24	13	10	0	0	0	
32	32	24	23	0	0	0	
कुल	(संघ शासित क्षेत्र)	32	24	43	4	1	3
कुल	(अखिल भारत)	32996	31440	27751	5498	4973	4575

Decline in Employment at Balco

3616. SHRI DILIP SIGNH JUDEV; Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a continuDus decline in the employment opportunities to be provided by Bharat Aluminium Company in Korba;

(b) whether local people are being denied the employment by the said company and a plot to abolish the job avenues is allegedly being worked out by the management;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government have made any efforts to protect the right of employment of the local people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) Due to the closure of Phutka Pahar and Amarkantak ropeway the requirement of manpower in these mines has reduced and manpower of these units has been adjusted in Korba. In this situation there was no scope for new employment to persons from outside the company'considering retirement etc. further employment opportunities from outside are expected to be available in the year 2002.

(b) No. Sir. In Bfiarat Alumininm Company Limited (BALCO) in non-executive category approximately 80% of the employees are from Madhya Pradesh. Out of this 68% are from Chattisgarh region.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Other than "compassionate ground" appointments of the dependants of deceased employees all recruitment in the non-executive category is done

through the local employment exchanges. Recruitment from other sources is done only in the even* of non-availability of suitable persons from the local employment exchang'

Emploration of Diamonds

3617. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Madhya Pradesh State Govemment have decided to hand-over the diamond deposits in Behradih Block in Raipur district to a Mumbai based B. Vijaykumar Dimond Consortium for exploration and exploitation of diamonds;

(b) if so, whether prior permission from Central Government was taken before taking this decision by the State Government; and

(c) if not, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (c) As per information furnished by the State Govt, of Madhya Pradesh, offer were invited by Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation on behalf of the Madhya Priadsh Govt, from Indian citizens and Compauies registered in India for prospctuig, mining and marketing of diamonds available" in 11 Blocks, of the state viz Angora bl6ck, Majhgaon block, paharikhera block, IB-Maini block, Sarangarh block, Pithora block, Behradih block, Kanker Keshkal block, Narainpur Lanjora block, Chhota Dongar block and Tpkapal block, each block covering an area of around 4500 to 5000 Sq. Kms. The following four companies submitted their offers:—

1. M/s. National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. Hyderabad [For (1) Pithora Block (2) Kanker-Keshkal Block (3) Chhota Dongar Block (4) Tokapal Block (5) Narainpur-Lanjora Block, & (6) Behradih Block].

2. M/s. Adamas India rvt. Lta., New Delhi (For Behradih Block only)

. 3. M/s. ACC-Rio Tinto Exploration Corp. Ltd. Bangalore (For Behradih Block only)

4. M/s. B. Vijaykumar Diamond Consortium, Mumbai, (For Behradih Block only)

The aforesaid four offers were evaluated by M/s. ICICI. Keeping in view the technical evaluation made by I.C.I.C.I., the Govt, of Madhya Pradesh has decided to accept the offer made by *M/&.* B. Vijaykumar Diamond Consortium for Behradih Block.

Further, the State Govt, of Madhya Pradesh has decided that the selected company shall form a Joint Sector Company in conjunction with' Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation within a fixed time frame.

After the Joint Sector Company is registered, Govt, of Madhya Pradesh shall recommend the application for grant of prospecting licence for prior approval of the Central Govt, as per the provisions of Section 5(1) of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957.

Since the Central Govt, has not received any proposal from the Govt, of Madhya Pradesh as yet for grant of prospecting licence for diamonds to M/s. B. Vijaykumar Diamond Consortium, Mumbai, the question regarding permission does not arise.

Gold/Diamond Mines in Raipur District of Madhya Pradesh

3618. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have found any Gold/Diamond mines in Devbhog/ Raipur district of Madhya Pradesh recently.

(b) if so, whether Government have received any report to explore the possibilities;